GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7641
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2002
COAL BED METHANE
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had a proposal for exploration and exploitation of coal bed methane gas from the coal mines of Nagpur, Wardha and Chandrapur in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the exploration work has since been started;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons for delay in starting exploration work; and

(f) the time by when the exploration work of coal bed methane gas is likely to be started?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (f) : Preliminary geological studies have indicated the presence of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) in Wardha Valley coal field in the State of Maharashtra. Government has approved the policy for exploration and production of CBM. This policy provides for offer of blocks through International Competitive Bidding. The carving outand offering of CBM prospective blocks is an ongoing and continuous process. The offer of CBM blocks, including any block in Wardha valley,in the future rounds of bidding depends upon several factors, viz. Inter-ministerial clearances, concurrence of CBM policy by the concerned State Governments etc.